

MEETING MINUTES
WATER QUALITY ASSURANCE REVOLVING FUND ADVISORY BOARD
Salt River Project Administration Building, 1521 N. Project Drive, Tempe, AZ
June 29, 2007

Board Members in attendance:

Richard Bark	Bridget Bero
David Christiana	Alan Croft (for Hsin-I Lin)
Lori Faeth	Karen Gaylord
Tamara Huddleston	Rick Lavis
Nancy Petersen	Karen O'Regan
Amanda Stone	Jim Vieregg
Nick Wallwork	Glinda Weddle

Board Members Absent:

Kelly Barr	Steve Besich
Manuel Ramirez	Lee Stein

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.

I. Welcome/Opening Comments/Administrative Issues – Mr. Rick Lavis, Chairman

- A. **Meeting Schedule** – Since this was Mr. Rick Lavis's last meeting as Chairman, Mr. Nick Wallwork, the new Chairman, and Ms. Karen Gaylord, new Vice-Chair, will determine next year's meeting schedule at a later date.
- B. **Addendum** – Mr. Lavis hoped to give an addendum to the 2002 Five-Year Report. He summarized the content and offered to send a copy for those that wanted one.
- C. **Second Five-Year Report** (Due 2008) – Mr. Lavis discussed aspects that the report could contain.

II. Approval of April 27, 2007 minutes –

Mrs. Karen O' Regan made a motion to approve the draft April 27, 2007 minutes. Mr. Richard Bark seconded the motion. The motion passed.

III. Departmental Reports –

- A. **ADEQ** – Ms. Samantha Roberts, ADEQ Remedial Projects Section Manager, highlighted aspects of the report that was presented to board members in their packets. Mr. Lavis questioned the exempt well that is being proposed by a property owner in Payson. Ms. Roberts clarified the location and the proposed use of the well. Discussion followed on this topic. Mr. Lavis asked about the status of Vulture Mill. Ms. Roberts reported that a DUER was sent to the property owner, and ADEQ is still waiting on the signature.

- B. **ADWR** – Mr. David Christiana stated most of the information will be covered in the year end report. They are continuing to review well applications and hiring of new employees.

IV. Year End Review Reports – ADEQ, ADWR, ADHS, and AG ADEQ

- A. **2006-2007 Objectives** – A report was given to board members in their packets. Ms. Roberts summarized the objectives for the last year:

- Emergency response actions
- Early Response Actions
- Operation and Maintenance
- Early Response Actions evaluations
- Remedial Investigations
- working towards Final Remedy; and
- Prospective Responsible Party searches

A progress chart was included in board packets that showed 26 out of the 35 WQARF sites achieved the goals that were set for 2007.

- B. **2006-2007 Results** – Ms. Roberts covered the major accomplishments under the new WQARF for 2007; notably the first DUER at East Washington Fluff, the first lien at Miracle Mile, the first consent order at West Van Buren and the first record of decision at Payson PCE. Ms. Roberts shared some impressive numbers for the program including 2.6 billion gallons of water treated, 1,800 lbs of VOCs removed, 2.2 million lbs of metals removed, 49 remediation wells were installed, 40 groundwater wells were installed, 1,850 groundwater samples collected, and 1,626 soil and soil gas samples were collected. Ms. Roberts summarized year end activities and stated the objectives that were reached for the various WQARF sites.

Ms. Ana Vargas, ADEQ Legal Support Unit Manager, informed the board of the numerous activities and accomplishments of her Unit for the past year including the first WQARF consent order with a second in process. The first lien was able to collect \$116,233.81 and 2 PPAs were executed this year as well.

Ms. Roberts continued by showcasing the community involvement accomplishments for the past year including the Superfund Handbook.

Mr. Tim Erwin, ADEQ Site Assessment Unit Manager, summarized the functions of his Unit and the accomplishments for the past year. The board discussed issues regarding a site being investigated in Cottonwood where there are active dry cleaners.

- C. **2007-2008 Objectives** – Ms. Roberts identified the program's objectives as the following:

- Delisting proposal
- PRP searches

- Associated RIs
- Pursuing working parties actions
- Long term stewardships on sites

Preliminary Investigation (PI) objectives

- Complete the three PIs that were discussed
- Use the super screen model
- Maintain the PI list

D. Policy Issues –

Mr. Lavis complemented the WQARF program for the past year's achievements. Ms. Nancy Petersen inquired about getting more information on the PI sites. Mr. Lavis asked that the insurance issues at the Mission Linen Site be on the agenda at the next meeting. Mr. Lavis also wanted to know if the working parties' contributions can be calculated.

Arizona Department of Water Resources (ADWR)

Mr. David Christiana summarized the two functions of ADWR; i.e., well applications reviews and well inventories. Background information was presented to board members on those two topics. A copy of the presentation was given to the board members in their packets.

A. 2006-2007 Objectives –

- Complete the backlog
- Continue well inventories
- Well application reviews

Mr. Christiana summarized those objectives that were completed this year.

B. 2006-2007 Results – Mr. Christiana summarized the objectives that were completed this year including specific accomplishments for each objective. The well spacing rule that affects wells in active management areas (AMA) became effective as of August 2006.

C. 2007-2008 Objectives –

- Continue with well applications
- Well permit reviews
- No back log
- Conduct more field work
- Coordinate to continue the data management and sharing with ADEQ

A ten-minute break was taken.

Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS)

Mr. Alan Croft, a health risk assessor with ADHS, has replaced Dr. Lin on the board. His presentation began with an explanation of the risk assessment health consultation program for ADHS. This program was created by Arizona statute under the direction and partial funding of the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).

- A. **2006-2007 Objectives** – The main objective of the program is to save lives and reduce human suffering. ADHS assists ADEQ’s WQARF program by assessing public health risks from environmental exposures. The agreement with ADEQ allocates \$15,000 to \$25,000 per quarter to fund four staff to support ADEQ in protecting human health.
- B. **2006-2007 Results** – During the past year ADEQ did not make any assignments to ADHS under the Interagency Services Agreement (ISA); however, ADEQ has reviewed all the health consultations before they have been published. Mr. Croft reported that the following eight health consultations were completed under a grant from the ATSDR in the last year:
1. Arsenic exposure from private drinking water wells in New River
 2. Ari-zonolite in Glendale
 3. Evaluation of primary metals in private drinking water wells in Walker
 4. Evaluation of heavy metals in private drinking water wells in Paulden
 5. Evaluation of water flows in Nogales Wash
 6. North Indian Bend Wash (NIBW) Central Groundwater Treatment Facility
 7. NIBW Area 7 Groundwater Extraction Treatment System
 8. W.R. Grace Exfoliation Facility in Phoenix
- ADHS also completed two technical assistance projects for:
1. NIBW Human Health Risk Assessment
 2. Phelps Dodge Sierrita Mine near Green Valley
- C. **2007-2008 Objectives** – During FY07, ADHS expended \$43,000 and the rest will be returned. ADHS is requesting \$100,000 for the FY08 budget.
- D. **Policy Issues** – A list of companies that ADHS works with was requested. Mr. Croft stated that this list was in the board members packet and on their web site.

Attorney General’s Office (AGO)

Ms. Tamara Huddleston summarized by saying that the AG’s objectives and results were the same as of her client – ADEQ. Ms. Huddleston distributed the AGO WQARF budget for the year. The planned budget for FY07 was \$937,000, but due to vacancy savings, \$90,000 will be returned this year.

V. Actions Items –

- A. **Adoption of E & E Revised Scoring Model** – Mr. Lavis gave a report on the results of the discussion in Ms. Karen Gaylord’s funding priorities subcommittee. It was decided to confer with Dr. Channing Johnson who is not available until October. This action was deferred until a discussion with Dr. Johnson has been completed.

- B. **Delisting Proposal** – The delisting proposal was discussed at Ms. Gaylord’s subcommittee meeting. Ms. Amanda Stone related the committee’s discussion about the guidance proposed and the two sites that are appropriate for delisting packets to be prepared: East Washington Fluff Site and the Western Avenue Site. She asked for approval to begin the preparation of those delisting packages. A motion was made by Ms. Lori Faeth to have the board adopt the written delisting guidance as presented to board. Mr. Jim Vieregg seconded the motion. Mr. Wallwork asked a question about whether the delisting guidance would affect the Voluntary Remediation Program. Ms. Stone confirmed that it would not affect that program. Mr. Vieregg requested to see the statute before voting. During the time he was reviewing the statute, Dr. Bero requested that the AG’s office provide more information in the annual report. Ms. Huddleston responded that most of the information in regards to issues that the AG’s have worked on have already been provided in ADEQ’s year end report and anything more specific would violate the attorney-client privilege. After Mr. Vieregg reviewed the statute, the vote was taken and passed.

Ms. Gaylord made a motion to approve the preparation of the two delisting packages for Western Avenue and East Washington Fluff. Dr. Barr seconded it. There was no discussion. The vote was taken and the motion passed.

At this point in the meeting, Mr. Patrick Cunningham, ADEQ Deputy Director, joined the group to make a special presentation to show appreciation to Mr. Rick Lavis for his service as the WQARF Advisory Board Chairman for the past eight years.

VI. Subcommittee Reports

- A. **Budget Subcommittee** – Mr. Wallwork discussed the projected budget for next year. Ms. Roberts discussed some large expenditure on projects that could affect the budget. Ms. Roberts discussed the possible funding needs for the Klondyke Tailings Site and the West Osborn Complex Site. Mr. Wallwork explained the site progress chart to demonstrate how it monitors each site in the WQARF process. Mr. Wallwork asked for approval from the board and made a motion to the board to authorize the Budget Subcommittee to prepare a report for the legislature by the October deadline. Mr. Vieregg seconded the motion. The motion passed. Mr. Wallwork also made a motion to the board to adopt the proposed FY08 spending plan. Mr. Vieregg seconded the motion, and it was passed.
- B. **Funding Priorities Subcommittee** – Ms. Gaylord explained that the review of current funding priorities and recommendations are made by this subcommittee, and those issues were distributed in a handout to the board. Ms. Gaylord specifically discussed the board’s priority issue of working party incentives. One way to address funding shortages at remediation sites is for working parties to conduct the work themselves. There are lots

of benefits for working parties to be involved, and the committee will continue to discuss how best to create those incentives.

VII. Remarks: New Officers

Mr. Wallwork, the new Chairman, recognized and expressed appreciation for Mr. Lavis' contribution to the work on the board over the past years. He also expressed his commitment to continue to lead the board in their common goal to achieve the best results with the dollars spent to clean up the groundwater and protect the environment at these sites.

Ms. Gaylord, the new Vice Chair, also reminisced about Mr. Lavis' hard work in learning about the WQARF process and providing balance and leadership on the board while always making sure that the cotton industry wouldn't be affected.

Mr. Bark paid tribute to Mr. Lavis as a gentleman who always showed respect to all those involved at the board meetings and their varied opinions.

Mr. Lavis related the events that resulted in his serving on the WQARF Board and becoming the Chairman, and he thanked all those who helped nurse him through his education of the WQARF program.

VIII. Adjournment – Ms. O' Regan moved and Mr. Wallwork seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 11:11 a.m.